

[Date]

The Honorable Warren T. Furutani, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
State Capitol, Room 3126
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FACSIMILE: 916-319-2155

RE: Opposition to the Elimination of the California Commission on the Status of Women

Dear Assemblymember Furutani and Committee Members :

I am writing in opposition to adopting the LAO's recommendation to eliminate the California Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission serves as an independent voice for the women and girls of California through its work with the Legislature and other State agencies. It is the only state agency that looks specifically at state actions' impact on women.

It is also an important link between many communities and state government. These include the working poor and their families, incarcerated women, those with limited English language ability, and those with less access to government services. Through its public hearings across the state, it has sought input from women and girls to better develop sound public policy.

It seems ironic that, at the very time budget cuts are being made that disparately impact women and their families, the Commission that speaks for them would be eliminated. Now, more than ever, that voice is needed in the State of California on behalf of women and the many issues affecting them.

Please continue the current very modest funding for the California Commission on the Status of Women.

Sincerely,

[Your name & Signature]